

### **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims**

1-29. (cancelled)

30. (new) A cannula having a proximal end and a distal end, the cannula comprising:  
a first lumen extending to the distal end;

a second lumen extending to the distal end;

a guidewire lumen, the guidewire lumen being adapted to allow a guidewire disposed therein to be moved laterally out of the guidewire lumen from a first location proximal of the distal end of the cannula to the distal end of the cannula.

31. (new) The cannula of claim 30, wherein the guidewire lumen takes the form of a channel from the first location to a location distal of the first location and proximal of the distal end of the cannula.

32. (new) The cannula of claim 31, wherein the channel is shaped in the form of a C.

33. (new) The cannula of claim 32, wherein the C-shaped channel has a longitudinal opening of a lesser span than the diameter of a guidewire sized for use with the cannula.

34. (new) The cannula of claim 31, wherein the channel is shaped in the form of a U.

35. (new) The cannula of claim 31, wherein the guidewire lumen takes the form of a closed lumen from the second location to the distal end of the cannula.

36. (new) The cannula of claim 35, wherein the closed lumen portion of the guidewire lumen includes a slit in the outer wall thereof, the slit being adapted to allow the guidewire to be moved laterally out of the guidewire lumen therethrough.

37. (new) The cannula of claim 35, wherein the guidewire lumen includes an outer wall, the outer wall having insufficient strength to prevent a guidewire disposed within the guidewire lumen from being moved laterally from within the guidewire lumen.

38. (new) A combination guidewire and cannula, the guidewire having a proximal end and a distal end, the cannula having a proximal end and a distal end, the cannula comprising:

- a first lumen extending to the distal end;
- a second lumen extending to the distal end;
- a guidewire lumen;

wherein the guidewire is sized to pass through the guidewire lumen to the distal end of the cannula, and the guidewire lumen is adapted to allow the guidewire to move laterally out of the guidewire lumen from a first location proximal of the distal end of the cannula to the distal end of the cannula.

39. (new) The combination of claim 38, wherein the guidewire lumen takes the form of a channel from the first location to a location distal of the first location and proximal of the distal end of the cannula.

40. (new) The combination of claim 39, wherein the channel is shaped in the form of a C.

41. (new) The combination of claim 40, wherein the C-shaped channel has a longitudinal opening of a lesser span than the diameter of a guidewire sized for use with the cannula.

42. (new) The combination of claim 39, wherein the channel is shaped in the form of a U.

43. (new) The combination of claim 39, wherein the guidewire lumen takes the form of a closed lumen from the second location to the distal end of the cannula.

44. (new) The combination of claim 43, wherein the closed lumen portion of the guidewire lumen includes a slit in the outer wall thereof, the slit being adapted to allow the guidewire to be moved laterally out of the guidewire lumen therethrough.

45. (new) The combination of claim 43, wherein the guidewire lumen includes an outer wall, the outer wall having insufficient strength to prevent a guidewire disposed within the guidewire lumen from being moved laterally from within the guidewire lumen to the outside of the cannula.

46. (new) A catheter for use in combination with an endoscope and a guide wire, the catheter having a proximal end and a distal end, the catheter comprising:

a guidewire lumen extending distally from a proximal location, the guidewire lumen having a distal end at the distal end of the catheter; and

a channel for accessing the guidewire lumen to facilitate rapid exchange of the catheter, the channel ending proximal of the distal end of the guidewire lumen.

47. (new) The catheter of claim 46, further comprising a weakened wall area extending along an outer wall of the guidewire lumen from the distal end of the channel toward the distal end of the catheter.

48. (new) The catheter of claim 47, wherein the weakened wall area includes a slit.

49. (new) The catheter of claim 47, wherein the weakened wall area includes a thinned wall portion.